Institutional Research and Analysis: Stacey Lopez

Vice President of Institutional Affairs Joann Mitchell announced the appointment of Stacey Lopez as Assistant Vice President for Institutional Research and Analysis for the University of Pennsylvania, effective December 3, 2007. Ms. Lopez has been the director of institutional research at Carnegie Mellon University for the past two years. Prior to that she was a planning analyst there.

"Stacey has a strong record of accomplishment in leading the institutional research operation for CMU and is widely respected by her peers for her commitment to excellence."

Cardiovascular Disease Management: NIH Grant

Cardiac researchers at the University of Pennsylvania have received a $2.1 million NIH grant to pioneer studies in cardiovascular disease management and participate in a novel collaboration network to develop and implement research. Penn is one of eight centers throughout the US and Canada to be a named a Clinical Coordinating Center in the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute-funded Clinical Research Network. This network will fund the creation of research and clinical trials to answer questions in cardiovascular surgery that have eluded researchers.

The eight institutions that comprise the Cardiothoracic Surgical Network will collaborate over a five-year period to improve current technologies and create new ones to treat cardiovascular disease. "The establishment of this network will result in great benefit for patients. It also encourages leaders in cardiovascular surgery to share ideas, information, data and results," said Dr. Michael Acker, chief of cardiovascular surgery at HUP, and principal investigator.

Senior Leadership Appointments at Wharton School

Dr. Thomas Robertson, Wharton dean, has announced several senior leadership appointments since becoming dean this summer.

Dr. Michael R. Gibbons, I.W. Burnham II Professor of Investment Banking and Professor of Finance, has been named deputy dean; he will serve as the School’s chief academic and program officer. Dr. Gibbons has been a Wharton faculty member since 1989, and has served as chairperson of the Finance Department from 1994-2006. He has also played a key role in many other School initiatives, including serving as a member of two strategic planning committees. Dr. Gibbons, who earned his PhD at the University of Chicago, has also taught at Stanford University and the University of Chicago.

Georgette Chapman Phillips, David B. Ford Professor of Real Estate; professor of legal studies and law; chairperson of the Real Estate Department, has been named vice dean and director of the Wharton Undergraduate Division. She has chaired the Real Estate Department since 2003 (Almanac February 3, 2004), and has served as a faculty member since 1992. She earned a JD from Harvard University.

"I am very excited to be joined by these distinguished colleagues," Dean Robertson said. "Mike and Georgette bring a wealth of experience to their positions and command a deep respect within the School. They have been instrumental in helping to advance numerous School initiatives during their tenure, and I look forward to working closely with them, as well as the entire Wharton community, moving forward."

Dean Robertson has also appointed Thomas J. Colligan as vice dean of Executive Education, and Peter J. Degnan as senior associate dean for Finance and Administration.

"I am delighted to have Tom and Peter on board as part of our senior leadership team," Dean Robertson said. "They bring a wealth of experience and a track record of success into two critical areas of our institution."

In his role as vice dean, Mr. Colligan will oversee Wharton’s offering of non-degree executive education programs, including open enrollment and custom programs. Each year, Wharton Executive Education works with more than 8,000 business leaders on campus in Philadelphia, at Wharton West in San Francisco, and at sites around the world.

Since 2004, Mr. Colligan has been a managing director of Duke Corporate Education for the Global Learning Resource Network, a for-profit corporation delivering custom executive education, and affiliated with Duke University’s Fuqua School of Business. Mr. Colligan has more than 35 years of experience working with Fortune 500 firms across a wide range of industries, as well as a strong commitment to professional development and training. Prior to that, he had been with PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC). While with the firm, Mr. Colligan led large, complex and high-profile transactions, served on the governing board and management committee, and developed the firm’s marketing strategy after the merger of Price Waterhouse with Coopers & Lybrand. As vice chairman of PwC, he developed firm-wide strategies for deepening relationships with PwC’s top 100 clients.

(continued on page 3)
Deaths

Dr. Glatthorn, GSE
Dr. Allan A. Glatthorn, professor emeritus of education, died at his home in Washington, North Carolina, on September 5; he was 83.

Dr. Glatthorn joined the faculty at Penn’s Graduate School of Education in 1972. He retired in 1987. He also was as professor emeritus at East Carolina University from which he retired in 2003. Dr. Glatthorn was born and raised in the Kensington section of Philadelphia. During World War II, he served in the United States Infantry.

Dr. Glatthorn is survived by his wife, Barbara; his son, Dale Glatthorn; his four daughters, Carolin Dotterer, Laura Vlasits, Louise Mangels, and Gwen Apple; six grandchildren; brother, Louis Glatthorn; and sister, Dorothy Egbert.

Memorial donations may be made to the East Carolina University Foundation in support of the Glatthorn Dissertation Award, Attn: Director of Development, ECU College of Education, 154 Speight Building, Greenville, NC 27858.

Mr. Golden, SAS Overseer
William Golden, emeritus member of the School of Arts and Sciences’ Board of Overseers, passed away October 7 in Manhattan, at the age of 97.

Mr. Golden, C’30, was on the SAS Board of Overseers for 30 years beginning in 1976. He became an emeritus member in 2006. He had also served on the Biology Advisory Board here. The University presented him with an honorary doctorate degree in 1979 and SAS presented him with the 1996-97 Distinguished Alumnus Award. He earned a master’s degree in biological sciences in 1979 from Columbia University, at age 70.

An investment banker and philanthropist, Mr. Golden served as either an officer or as a board member to many organizations including the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Carnegie Institute of Washington and the American Philosophical Society. He was chairman emeritus of the American Museum of Natural History.

In 1950-51, Mr. Golden was special consultant to US President Harry Truman to review the organization of the government’s military-scientific activities; his recommendations led to the creation of the President’s Science Advisory Committee and of the position of Science Advisor to the President. He also advised President Truman and the Director of the Budget on the activation of the National Science Foundation. He has co-authored and edited five books on science advising.

Mr. Golden is survived by his wife, Catherine Morrison; and two daughters, Sibyl Rebecca Golden and Pamela Prudence Golden.

Dr. Haber, Engineering
Dr. Fred Haber, professor emeritus of the electrical and systems engineering department in the School of Engineering and Applied Science, died September 20 at Bay Square Assisted Living in Yarmouth, ME; he was 86.

Dr. Haber earned his bachelor’s degree in engineering from Pennsylvania State University. He did his graduate studies at Penn, earning his master’s and doctoral degrees in electrical engineering in 1953 and 1960, respectively.

Dr. Haber’s nearly 30-year career at Penn spanned from 1957 until his retirement in 1988. His research included projects for the US Army and Navy, and NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory and space communication systems. He also worked with the Philadelphia Police Department to improve its communication systems.

Dr. Haber is survived by his daughter, Jill Pallone; son, Carl Haber; and a brother.

Dr. Hillman, Medicine and Wharton
Dr. Alan L. Hillman, professor of medicine and health care systems, died May 24, at age 51.

Dr. Hillman earned both his BA and MD from Cornell University in 1978 and 1981, respectively. In 1986 he earned his MBA from Wharton. That same year he was appointed assistant professor of medicine. In 1993 he was promoted to associate professor and then in 1999 became full professor. Dr. Hillman also held an appointment in the Wharton School as professor of health care systems.

In addition to his teaching duties, Dr. Hillman held numerous administrative positions including serving as associate dean for health services research, School of Medicine, 1995-98; director, Center for Health Policy, Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics, 1990-99; director, Clinical Programs Management Research Project, 1988-90; associate director, University of Pennsylvania Medical Group, 1987-90; medical director, HealthPASS, 1987-90; director of clinical programs, section of general internal medicine, 1986-90. He also served as a consultant for many companies including John- son & Johnson, Aetna Insurance, Eli Lilly, Pfizer and the Food and Drug Administration.

Dr. Hillman’s research interests included health economics, technology assessment, financial incentives to physicians, cost-effectiveness analysis, and health policy. He had served on the editorial boards of Health Services Research, Healthcare System Strategy Report, Managed Care, and Pharmacoeconomics.

Dr. Hillman received numerous awards and honors including Article of the Year Award, Association for Health Services Research, 1991; Penn’s Medical Student Government Excellence in Teaching Awards, 1992; and Young Investigators Award, Association for Health Services Research, 1993.

Dr. Hillman is survived by his daughters, Abigail and Jennifer; siblings, Robert and Richard.

Dr. Wells, Political Science
Dr. Henry Wells, 92, professor emeritus of political science, died on October 1 at his home in Chestnut Hill. He was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease in the mid-1990s.

Long interested in the democratic process in Latin America, Dr. Wells held faculty appointments at Yale University from 1947 to 1953 and at the University of Puerto Rico from 1953 to 1956. At Penn, he taught undergraduate and graduate courses in Latin American politics and Inter-American relations from 1956 until his retirement in 1986. He was chairman of the graduate program in International Relations from 1970 to 1973.

Early in his career he helped draft Puerto Rico’s first constitution. As a member of a technical assistance mission of the Organization of American States (OAS), he advised the Dominican Republic government on election law and procedure and received an Order of Merit for his work. Fluent in Spanish, he traveled widely in Latin America and served as an OAS election observer in Costa Rica, Bolivia, Honduras, and Nicaragua.

He was a member of the book, The Modernization of Puerto Rico: A Political Study of Changing Values and Institutions, published in 1969.

Growing up in the Depression sharpened his interest in politics. In Philadelphia he was a consultant to Mayor Richardson Dilworth on community groups, including Puerto Ricans in the city. He served a two-year term as Judge of Elections in West Mt. Airy (36th Division of the 59th Ward, 1962-64).

As president of West Mt. Airy Neighbors in the early 1960s, he championed integration and inclusion. As chairman of the Chestnut Hill Community Association and chairman of its Community Relations committee. He was also a member of the vestry at St. Martin’s-in-the-Fields and on the Board of Directors of the Philadelphia Divinity School.

Born in Macomb, Illinois, Dr. Wells earned a bachelor’s degree at the University of Illinois, Phi Beta Kappa, followed by a master’s degree at Louisiana State University. His PhD studies at Yale were interrupted by World War II. He served as a Lieutenant in the US Naval Reserve assigned to the Seventh Fleet, from 1942 to 1946. He returned to Yale, earning his degree in 1947.

Dr. Wells is survived by his wife, Grace, of 57 years, Patricia P.B. Wells; his children, Jane E. Wells, Mary Paul (Polly) Wells, Thomas G. Wells, Alexandra Wells, Anthony M. Wells, Emily H. Wells; and 10 grandchildren. A memorial service will be held on Friday, November 2, 2007 at 2 p.m., at St. Martin-in-the-Fields, 8000 St. Martin’s Lane, Philadelphia, PA 19118. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be sent to the All Saints Fund.

Correction: The list of new 25-Year Club members, should have identified Jehoshua Eliashberg, Marketing/Wharton as Dr.
University of Pennsylvania Trustees’ Meeting
Penn Trustees will meet on October 18-19, at the Inn at Penn.

Thursday, October 18
10:15-11:45 a.m.
Facilities & Campus Planning Committee
Woodlands AB
2:15-3:45 p.m.
Neighborhood Initiatives Committee
Thomas Webb Richards
Students & Life Committee
Woodlands CD
4:5-30 p.m.
Academic Policy Committee
St. Marks
Budget & Finance Committee
Woodlands AB
External Affairs Committee
Woodlands CD

Friday, October 19
11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
Stated Meeting of the Trustees
Woodlands ABCD

Wharton Appointments
(continued from page 1)
ents, representing $1.5 billion in revenue. He also spearheaded the firm’s global audit practice in the technology, telecommunications and entertainment areas, overseeing operations in 100 countries. In addition, Mr. Colligan had extensive responsibilities advising pharmaceutical and consumer products firms.

Mr. Colligan holds a BS (cum laude) in accounting from Fairleigh Dickinson University and has attended a number of advanced management programs, at Harvard and the University of Virginia.

In his role as senior associate dean, Mr. Degnan will oversee Wharton’s operating and capital budget, human resources, computing, and facilities. He has extensive experience managing financial and administrative functions, such as finance, operations, information technology, and general administration. He worked as managing director for UBS Warburg Japan and was responsible for the complete integration of the merger between UBS and SBC Warburg operations in Japan. Prior to his work with UBS, Mr. Degnan spent 14 years with Lehman Brothers, Inc., where he held several senior executive positions, including chief credit officer and chief financial officer for Lehman operations in New York, Hong Kong, and Tokyo.

He joined Wharton in 2002 as director of MBA Career Management, where he reengineered the MBA recruiting process. In 2004, he was appointed executive director of Executive Education, helping to lead the expansion of the School’s international client base and custom program offerings.

Mr. Degnan holds an MBA from New York University’s Leonard N. Stern School of Business and a BS degree from Georgetown University.

Dr. Schmittlein: Dean of Sloan at MIT
Dr. David C. Schmittlein, Ira A. Lipman Professor, and professor of marketing at Wharton, has been appointed John C. Head III Dean of the MIT Sloan School of Management, effective yesterday.

Dr. Schmittlein had served as Wharton’s interim dean during July, and has served as the School’s deputy dean from 2000-2007. He also served as chair of the editorial board for Wharton School Publishing. He taught marketing at Wharton for nearly three decades.

He became the eighth dean of the 55-year-old Sloan School and the first since 1966 to be recruited from outside MIT. He replaces Richard Schmalensee, who stepped down in June to return to teaching after nine years. The appointment comes three months after MIT broke ground on a 210,000-square-foot headquarters building facing the Charles River in Cambridge amid plans to expand its size and raise its profile.

Sloan, with 101 faculty members and 750 full-time MBA students, is about half the size of Wharton, which has 212 faculty members and 1,500 full-time MBA students. Dr. Schmittlein said he would like to increase Sloan’s faculty by at least 10 percent, and the student body by more than 10 percent, as the campus expands.

International Conference: Gender, War and Militarism
The Alice Paul Center for Research on Women, Gender, and Sexuality at the University of Pennsylvania will host an international conference, Gender, War, and Militarism, October 25-26 at Penn.

This event will be the first truly major conference to consider the crucial gender-related issues in contemporary conflicts including gendercide, rape, and child soldiers and women as peace activists and GRPs by far, the most international in scope to date,” said Dr. Shannon Lunde, associate director of the Center.

Experts in international relations, law, Middle Eastern studies, peace studies, political science and women’s studies will address issues of war and gender in conflict zones around the world.

The conference opens on October 25 from 9:45 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. in Bodek Lounge of Houston Hall. From 4 to 7:30 p.m., the conference will continue in Room 200, College Hall.

The second day of the conference is also open to the public from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. in Room G06, Huntsman Hall.

The schedule is at www.sus.upenn.edu/wstudties/gwmconference.

Distinguished International Scholars: November 16
The Office of the Provost announces that applications are available for the Distinguished International Scholars, a program which aims to promote further global engagement in undergraduate education and deepen the University’s ties to the world’s leading universities and scholars. Any member of the Standing Provost who is teaching an undergraduate course in an upcoming semester may apply to host an international scholar. The deadline for this application cycle is November 16, 2007. Applications will be accepted for courses to be offered in any of the next two academic years: 2008-2009 and 2009-2010. There will be another call for applications and a new deadline in the spring of 2008.

Distinguished International Scholars offers Penn faculty the opportunity to invite a scholar from another nation to contribute significantly to an undergraduate course while visiting Penn’s campus. The scholar’s time may be compressed into a two-week visit or spread out over the course of a semester but the total time spent on campus should be at least ten weekdays. Longer or shorter periods for the visit may be acceptable depending on the circumstances. In addition to the course, the scholar should participate in the intellectual and cultural life of campus through such activities as visiting other courses, offering public lectures, attending departmental seminars/workshops, and participating in programs through College Houses and Academic Services.

The faculty member will be responsible for hosting the scholar during the visit. This includes coordinating all travel and lodging arrangements, as well as planning all educational and social activities during the visit. The host department or school will receive $20,000 to cover expenses related to the visit such as an honorarium, visa fees, and the costs of lodging, meals, and travel. Application will be evaluated based on the scholar’s reputation and teaching expertise, as well as the intellectual and cultural life of the campus, and the impact the scholar’s visit will have on undergraduate education at Penn.

For copies of the application material or further information, contact Rob Nelson, Office of the Provost, at provost-ed@upenn.edu or (215) 898-7225.

Population Health Grants: November 15
The Robert Wood Johnson Health & Society Scholars Program at Penn is issuing a Call for Proposals in Population Health open to all Penn faculty. Grants will range from $2,000-$20,000 to develop pilot projects which will attract external support for larger-scale studies, fund small-scale projects or develop enduring education materials to advance teaching and training in population health concepts or methods within the University. The application deadline is November 15; see www.upenn.edu/wjjhsszp for details.

Penn Humanities Forum on Change, 2008-2009: Penn Faculty Mellon Research Fellowships
Applications are solicited from Standing Faculty in the humanities and allied departments for the 2008-2009 Mellon Penn Faculty Research Fellowships at the Penn Humanities Forum. Call for Applications Deadline: February 1, 2008.

Awards in the amount of $5000 are available for junior faculty (assistant professors) to be disbursed as salary; $10,000 awards are also available to senior faculty (associate and full) paid directly to departments to offset the cost of one course release.

Fellows must be engaged in research directly related to Change, the Forum’s topic for 2008-2009, the Forum’s tenth anniversary. Fellows also are expected to participate in the Forum’s weekly Mellon Research Seminar held on Tuesdays, noon-2 p.m., during the academic year.

Full details on the fellowship application process and the Forum’s tenth anniversary topic, Change, are available online at www.phf.upenn.edu/facultyf.shtml.
Institute of Medicine: 
Dr. Asch, Cooper and Fleisher

Three Penn professors have recently been elected as members of the Institute of Medicine. The three professors are:

Dr. David A. Asch, Robert D. Eilers Professor of Medicine and Health Care Management and Economics at the School of Medicine and the Wharton School and executive director of the Leonard Davis Institute of Health Economics;

Dr. Joel D. Cooper, professor and chief of the Division of Thoracic Surgery; and

Dr. Lee A. Fleisher, Robert D. Dripps Professor and chair of the department of anesthesiology and critical care and professor of medicine.

Social Science Award: Dr. Cowan

Dr. Ruth Schwartz Cowan, Janice and Julian Bers Professor and chair of the department of history and sociology of science has been awarded the John Desmond Bernal Prize of the Society for the Social Study of Science. This prize is awarded annually to a scholar who has made distinguished contributions to the field.

Honorary Degree: Dr. Alavi

Dr. Abass Alavi, professor of radiology in the School of Medicine, has been awarded with laurea honoris causa, or an honorary doctorate degree, from the University of Bologna in Italy. The laurea honoris causa is a prestigious academic award given only on rare and special occasions by Italian universities. Dr. Alavi received his degree in medicine and surgery.

Honorary Degree: Mr. Olin

Laurie Olin, practice professor of landscape architecture and regional planning, has received an honorary doctor of letters degree from Franklin and Marshall College. Mr. Olin is also partner at the Olin Partnership in Philadelphia.

Book Award: Ms. Berrizbeitia

Anita Berrizbeitia, associate professor of landscape architecture and associate department chair, has been honored with the 2007 John Brinckerhoff Jackson Book Prize for her work, Roberto Burle Marx in Caracas: Parque del Este, 1956-1961. The prize is awarded for recently published books with significant contributions to the study and understanding of garden history and landscape architecture.

Neuroscience and Law Project Leader: Dr. Morse

Dr. Stephen Morse, Ferdinand Wakeman Hubbell Professor of Law and professor of psychology and law in psychiatry, has been selected as a leader to help lead the Law and Neuroscience Project. The project is designed to integrate new developments in neuroscience into the US legal system and is based at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Dr. Morse will be working with other expert scientists, legal scholars, jurists, and philosophers, including former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor.

Robert Redford Row at Zellerbach

On October 10, the Social Planning and Events Committee Film Society (SPEC Films) hosted a pre-release screening of Lions for Lambs in the Zellerbach Theatre of the Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts—on the largest film screen in the entire Philadelphia region. Lions for Lambs is due in theaters November 2.

Director and actor Robert Redford attended the question and answer session after the screening along with cast members Michael Peita and Andrew Garfield. Dr. Donald Kettl, director of the Fels Institute, moderated.

Afterwards, on behalf of the Board of Overseers of the Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, Overseers Roberta Tanenbaum and Jon Greenawalt, Jr. (C ’91) announced the decision to dedicate row R of the Harold L. Zellerbach Theatre as the Robert Redford Row.

“Robert Redford Row” is in the company of other rows named for famous people, including Grace Kelly and Frank Sinatra.

NAACP Search Committee for President: Dr. Berry

Dr. Mary Frances Berry, the Geraldine R. Segal Professor of American Social Thought and professor of history, has been named a member of the search committee for a president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). The committee is being led by Chairman Julian Bond and consists of activists, scholars and business leaders.

Special Master in Arbitration Hearing: Mr. Burbank

Stephen Burbank, the David Berger Professor for the Administration of Justice at Penn Law, served as the special master who led the recent arbitration hearing between the Atlanta Falcons and the NFL Players Association, which represented the football player Michael Vick, who pleaded guilty to federal charges for his role in a dog-fighting operation.

Bike Riding Across the Country to Raise Money for Scholarships

The 3,050-mile Bucknell-Penn Alumni Bike Race Across America for Scholarship, the first such effort by a group of University of Pennsylvania and Bucknell University alumni to raise scholarship funds for each school to support outstanding students from low-income backgrounds. The race also honored the memory of Ed Zolla, W ’68, who had planned to make this ride. The ride began September 9 in Santa Monica, Calif., and ended for the Penn riders on September 27, with a grand entrance onto campus. As the Penn team arrived on Locust Walk at the Sweeten Alumni House they greeted and cheered; left to right, Ted Lansky, C ’64; Mike Shockro; and Bruce Lederman, W ’64, at the conclusion of their cross-country race. The team rode more than 3,000 miles in 19 days, while raising more that $240,000 in scholarship money for Penn. See www.alumnibikerace.com for more information about the cross-country ride or to donate to the scholarship fund.
Where Should I Have My Outpatient Surgery?

Researchers at Penn’s School of Medicine have identified risk factors that may be associated with increased rates of hospital admission immediately following outpatient surgery. These risk factors should be considered by patients and physicians when deciding an appropriate surgical setting, whether outpatient or in a hospital. Corresponding author Dr. Lee A. Fleisher, chair of anesthesiology and critical care for the University of Pennsylvania Health System, and colleagues reported their findings in the March 19 issue of The Archives of Surgery.

The study consisted of 783,558 ambulatory surgery patients, of which 4,351 were sent directly to the hospital following surgery, and of which 19 died. This equates to 1 death per approximately 50,000 patients. Medical risk factors include being 65 years or older, operating time longer than 120 minutes, cardiac diagnoses, peripheral vascular disease, cerebrovascular disease, malignancy, human immunodeficiency virus, and regional or general anesthesia. Medical procedure restrictions are being lifted and more and more procedures are being done on an outpatient basis. Some outpatient facilities are far from hospitals, which adds to the patient’s risk should complications arise.

Surgery in freestanding surgery centers has many advantages, especially from a patient comfort standpoint. Close proximity to the surrounding community means more patient friendly services, such as parking, and in some cases, a more procedure specific focus are all advantages of the outpatient setting. However, ambulatory settings do not have nearly the variety and expertise offered at a hospital. “We know about 1 in 200 patients get admitted to hospital following outpatient surgery, but that rate can easily vary,” Dr. Fleisher concluded.

Increase in Type 1 Diabetes Among Black Children

A study by Dr. Terri Lipman, associate professor of nursing of children-clinical educator, and her colleagues published in Diabetes Care, found that for the first time in Philadelphia, black children showed a higher incidence of type 1 diabetes than white children. The incidence rates for Hispanic and white children were unchanged, and have been relatively stable for the past 15 years.

Since the beginning of the registry there has been a 64% increase in black children ages 5–9 and a 37% increase in black children ages 10–14. Researchers report that the incidence in black children rises dramatically with age.

In Philadelphia, the highest percentage of cases (45%) was in children ages 10–14 of all races. The overall increasing rate of incidence of type 1 diabetes in Philadelphia is similar to other US registries.

The study used a retrospective-based population registry of Philadelphia that was started in 1985 and maintained by Dr. Lipman. The Philadelphia registry is one of only four ongoing pediatric type 1 diabetes registries in the US. In light of these findings, the researchers concluded that more studies need to be conducted to identify causes.

“In addition, it has been shown that black children with type 1 diabetes have poorer metabolic control and higher rates of morbidity and mortality,” said Dr. Lipman. “With the rising incidence of type 1 diabetes in the black population, it is crucial that we develop culturally relevant interventions to minimize racial disparities in treatment and outcomes.”

Proposed Reforms to Fix Voting Problems Reported in '04, '06 National Elections

Unresolved problems from the 2004 and 2006 elections could affect the outcome of this year’s presidential ballot and other contests, according to the Fels Institute of Government at the University of Pennsylvania.

A new Fels report presents a series of reforms to fix problems American voters complained about in the two most recent election years. “My Vote1 National Election Report: Voice of the Electorate 2006” is a summary of information gathered from thousands of calls into a national election hotline on and around Election Day 2006.

The largest number of voter complaints related to voter registration. Many citizens did not know whether they were registered, and if so, where they were registered. Others believed they were registered but were told by poll workers that they were not. The largest number of callers to the hotline did not express complaints, but rather sought their poll location.

The report identifies, quantifies and localizes other problems affecting voters, including complaints related to voting machines, inadequate local election board help lines and late absentee ballots.

The report presents evidence-based solutions and reforms, requiring states and/or local governments to:

• Provide hotlines and websites that allow voters to find their polling places based on their residential addresses.
• Implement hotline and Web-based systems that give citizens access to their registration status.
• Improve tests of voting machines and training of poll workers on the use of new equipment and on educating the public about voting equipment, new and old.
• Ensure that county-board help lines will meet demand during each election cycle.
• Implement an absentee-ballot tracker system that gives voters access to the status of their absentee-ballot requests via a hotline and website in the same way that delivery companies and online businesses track packages and orders.


Little Support for Mandatory HPV Vaccinations

A study by the Annenberg School for Communication shows that the majority of respondents either oppose or are neutral to proposed legislation making it mandatory for school-age girls to obtain the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine before they can enter school.

The same study found that Americans are, however, in favor of government-run education programs to help the population understand the value of the vaccine, and allowing parents to make their own decisions about vaccinating their daughters. Americans are also generally in favor of government subsidies to pay for the vaccine for the uninsured.

The responses were obtained from representative samples of adults over age 18 in 2006–2007, by the Center for Excellence in Cancer Communication Research (CECCR) at the Annenberg School.

In June 2006–the same month that the vaccine received FDA approval–634 adults were surveyed about vaccination intentions and policy opinions. Next, from January through June of this year, a new sample was recruited monthly to answer one question about mandatory vaccination.

Nearly half the survey participants oppose mandatory vaccinations in schools; only 15.8% support such legislation, while 34.7% are neutral on the subject. Additionally, nearly half (45.4%) of the participants are against vaccinating girls under the age of 18 without parental consent.

At the same time, respondents generally supported the idea of physicians recommending the vaccine to eligible patients (60.2%), they supported the government covering the vaccine for the uninsured (57.1%), and felt insurers should pay for the vaccine (64.7%). A total of 58.2% said the government should sponsor an educational campaign about the vaccine.

Computer Memory Designed for Faster Retrieval in Nanoscale Form

Scientists from Penn’s School of Engineering and Applied Science designed nanowires capable of storing computer data for 100,000 years and retrieving that data a thousand times faster than existing portable memory devices such as Flash memory and micro-drives, all using less power and space than current memory technologies.

Dr. Ritesh Agarwal, assistant professor in the department of materials science and engineering, and his colleagues developed a self-assembling nanowire of germanium antimony telluride, a phase-changing material that switches between amorphous and crystalline structures, the key to read/write computer memory.

Phase-change memory in general features faster read/write, better durability and simpler construction compared with other memory technologies such as Flash. The challenge has been to reduce the size of phase change materials by conventional lithographic techniques without damaging their useful properties. Self-assembled phase-change nanowires, as created by Penn researchers, operate with less power and are easier to scale.

Current solid-state technology for products like memory cards, digital cameras and PDAs traditionally utilize Flash memory, a non-volatile and durable computer memory that can be erased and reprogrammed electronically. Data on Flash drives provides most battery-powered devices with acceptable levels of durability and moderately fast data access. Yet the technology’s limits are apparent. Digital cameras can’t snap rapid-fire photos because it takes precious seconds to store the last photo to memory. If the memory device is fast, such as DRAM and SRAM used in computers, then it is volatile; if the plug on a desktop computer is pulled, all retained data entry is lost. Therefore, if a universal memory device is desired that can be scalable, fast, durable and nonvolatile, a difficult set of requirements which have now been demonstrated at Penn.

“Imagine being able to store hundreds of high-resolution movies in a small drive, downloading them and playing them without wasting time on data buffering, or imagine booting your laptop computer in a few seconds as you wouldn’t need to transfer the operating system to active memory,” Dr. Agarwal said.

ALMANAC October 16, 2007
www.upenn.edu/almnanac
One Step Ahead

Security & Privacy

Made Simple

“Phishing” and “Domain Tasting”

“Phishing” has been the subject of previous “One Step Ahead” articles, but “phishers,” like “spammers” are continually coming up with new wrinkles in their ongoing efforts to separate you from your confidential, personal information—and your money—so it’s worthwhile to keep up to date on the latest trends.

“Phishing” in its basic form arrives as an e-mail message purporting to be from a reputable online business or financial institution. The message instructs you to click on a link to a website where you will be asked to enter information about yourself and your account in order to fix a “problem.” The website is phony, of course, and is intended to harvest this personal information for purposes of identity theft and other crimes.

A recent report by the Anti-Phishing Working Group (www.antiphishing.org) investigated the relationship between “phishing” and the practice known as “domain tasting.” Domain tasters are domain registration companies that register large numbers of names (such as “upenn.edu”, “verizon.com”, “why.org”), sample the amount of traffic to those names, and use the 5-day “grace period” to cancel registrations that seem unattractive. Many of these “tasted” domain names are intentional common misspellings of widely known names, e.g., “cambellsoup.com” instead of “cambellsoup.com,” and it has been suspected that “phishers” have been exploiting this type of activity to make their phony websites appear more genuine.

The report concluded that those who engage in domain tasting do not necessarily engage in “phishing,” and vice versa, but noted that the sheer number of names being registered by domain tasters is making it more difficult for anti-phishing groups to keep track of genuine “phishing” domains. For those of us who use e-mail and web browsers, however, the basic lesson here is: pay close attention to each URL you visit—if it looks “phishy” due to incorrect spelling or otherwise, chances are it is.

For additional tips, see the One Step Ahead link on the Information Security website: www.upenn.edu/computing/security.

Almanac On-the-Go: RSS Feeds

Almanac provides links to select stories each week there is an issue. Visit Almanac’s website, www.upenn.edu/almanac for instructions on how to subscribe to the Almanac RSS Feed.

Wanted: Work-Study Students

Duties of students who work at Almanac include administrative tasks, desktop publishing, web and database maintenance, research, and proofreading. E-mail your resume to Natalie Woolard at stevens@upenn.edu.

ALMANAC  October 16, 2007
The University of Pennsylvania Police Department  
Community Crime Report

About the Crime Report: Below are all Crimes Against Persons and Crimes Against Society from the campus report for October 1-7, 2007. Also reported were 19 crimes against property (including 18 thefts and 1 act of fraud). Full reports are available at: www.upenn.edu/almanac/volumes/v54/n08/creport.htm. Prior week’s reports are also online. —ED

This summary is prepared by the Division of Public Safety and includes all criminal incidents reported and made known to the University Police Department between the dates of October 1-7, 2007. The University Police actively patrol from Market Street to Baltimore Avenue and from the Schuylkill River to 43rd Street in conjunction with the Philadelphia Police. In this effort to provide you with a thorough and accurate report on public safety concerns, we hope that your increased awareness will lessen the opportunity for crime. For any concerns or suggestions regarding this report, please call the Division of Public Safety at (215) 898-4482.

18th District Report
5 incidents with no arrests (including 2 robberies and 3 aggravated assaults) were reported between October 1-7, 2007 by the 18th District covering the Schuylkill River to 49th St. & Market St. to Woodland Ave.

10/03/07 7:45 AM 3900 Walnut St  Aggravated Assault
10/03/07 12:23 PM 4700 Walnut St  Aggravated Assault
10/04/07 1:32 AM 5101 Walnut St  Robbery
10/05/07 4:47 PM 4700 Walnut St  Robbery
10/06/07 2:48 AM 4837 Chamounix St  Aggravated Assault

One of the world’s great repertory ensembles, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, returns to Penn’s Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts October 18-20 with a program featuring the works of Tony Award-winning choreographer Twyla Tharp and Israeli choreographer Ohad Naharin. The program includes a revival of Tharp’s signature work, Baker’s Dozen, a clever romp built on social dance forms set to Willie “the Lion” Smith’s 1920 ragtime music and Naharin’s powerful and passionate duet, Passamezzo. For tickets see, www.pennpresents.org.
Show and Sale of “Treasures” From World Cultures: October 26-28 at the Penn Museum

Treasures...From the Silk Road to the Santa Fe Trail Show & Sale, Philadelphia’s exciting, exotic shopping and collecting exposition of antiques, fine arts and textiles from World Cultures, returns to the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology for its third annual presentation on October 26-28, 2007. Treasures 2007 opens with a “reservations suggested” preview party, October 25.

Forty prominent dealers from around the world will again transform the Museum’s third floor galleries into a spectacular marketplace for exceptional and unusual art, antiques, jewelry, carpets, sculptural objects, furniture, ceramics, wearables and textiles—all carefully vetted, one-of-a-kind 18th-21st century pieces. Thousands of experienced and new collectors, interior designers, home furnishers, clothing visionaries and style-setters come to “shop the world” at Treasures, Philadelphia’s first and only show and sale of fine art works from Asia, Africa, Oceania and the Americas.

Presented by The Women’s Committee to benefit Penn Museum’s educational and outreach programs, Treasures is produced by the premier US presenter of Asian, Tribal and Ethnographic Arts expos, Caskey-Lees, (www.caskeylees.com). Treasures 2007 is chaired by Susan W. Catherwood, Helen Stephen-son Weary and Nancy Freeman Tabas.

Treasures has been cited by the Greater Philadelphia Tourism Marketing Corporation as one of Philadelphia’s top annual events and is a centerpiece of “Philadelphia Falls for the Arts,” a collaboration with USArtists: American Fine Art Show and The Philadelphia Museum of Art Craft Show.

Two “treasured” special exhibitions at Penn Museum coincide with the Treasures 2007 Show & Sale. River of Gold, Pre-columbian Treasures from Sitio Conte–exquisitely crafted goldwork from the Museum’s 1940 excavations at the ancient cemetery site of Sitio Conte in what is now central Panama; and selected highlights from Treasures from the Royal Tombs of Ur, including amazing jewelry, gold and silver, and more— from the Museum’s 1920-30s excavations at Ur, one of the most spectacular discoveries in ancient Mesopotamia (modern-day Iraq).

The Treasures 2007 preview party for sponsors and benefactors is Thursday evening, October 25 from 5-9 p.m. Treasures is open to the public Friday and Saturday, October 26-27, from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Sunday, October 28 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

General admission: $15, includes unlimited re-entry, show catalogue and Museum admission; $12 for Penn Museum members, Penn faculty, staff, alumni and members of WHYY; $10 for students. Call for group rates.

Tickets can be purchased at the door and online at www.museum.upenn.edu. Information and reservations: (215) 898-9213 or treasures@museum.upenn.edu.

Treasures is supported by NBC10 TV; WHYY; Greater Philadelphia Tourism Marketing Corporation; Philadelphia Hospitality; 900AM WURD; and numerous corporations and individuals.

Pictured above: Dealer Jon Eric Riih, from Atlanta, GA, will bring this embroidered, counted-stitch woman’s sleeveless vest from mid-19th Century, China, 28” x 34,” along with other items.